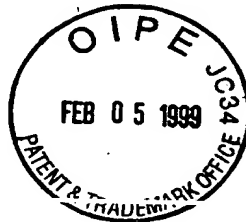


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#4/a  
KW  
2-19-99

the US Patent Application of:



Serial No.: Claudio R. Ballard  
09/081,012  
Filed: May 18, 1996  
Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
Examiner: Not yet assigned  
For: REMOTE IMAGE CAPTURE WITH CENTRALIZED  
PROCESSING AND STORAGE  
Atty. Docket No.: 2000976-0009

February 5, 1999

PRELININARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

FEB 16 1999

Group 2700

Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-captioned application, it is respectfully requested that the following amendments be entered:

In The Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

a 1. (Amended) A system for central management, storage and report generation of remotely captured paper transactions from [documents and receipts] checks comprising:

one or more remote data access subsystems for capturing and sending paper transaction data including a payer bank's identification number, a payer bank's routing number, a payer bank's routing information, a payer's account number, a payer's check, a payer bank's draft, a check amount, a payee bank's identification number, a payee bank's routing information, and a payee's account number, and further including subsystem identification information comprising at least one imaging subsystem for capturing the checks and at least one data access controller for managing the capturing and sending of the transaction data;

at least one central data processing subsystem for processing, sending, verifying and storing the paper transaction data and the subsystem identification